

BERLIN

POLICY

530/6

TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the  
United States of America

INCOMING American Embassy, Paris

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Classification

Control: 3812

Recd: Oct 31, 1961  
8:20 PMACTION:  
STOESSEL  
#1,2  
INFO:  
TSC#3

FROM: BERLIN

NO : NIACT 637, Oct 31, 6 PM

ACTION DEPT PRITY 896 INFO BONN NIACT 793 PARIS NIACT 637

N I A C T

PARIS EYES ONLY FOR STOESSEL FOR NOTENAD

BONN EYES ONLY FOR DOWNING

FROM CLAY

RE OURTEL 893 DEPT, 791 BONN, 635 PARIS; OURTEL 894 DEPT,  
792 BONN, 636 PARIS

Now that I have received Notstad's recommendations I would like to point out that I do not agree with his premises nor do I believe that reciprocity in the showing of identification cards would serve any useful purpose now. To my mind we are in a stronger position stopping our civilians in the face of Soviet show of force than we would be to submit identification cards to Vopos, particularly as the Soviet representatives have always indicated their willingness to show identification cards. Somehow I had interpreted the recommendation as involving bringing in West German police not West Berlin police to do the checking at Friedrich Strasse, and this I believe would be a major step forward. I would like to point out that we have tripartite agreement now to demand identification from Soviet civilians entering West Berlin, this check to be made at all entrances including Friedrich Strasse by West Berlin police, and is to go into effect within the next day or two.

Before use of Armed escort, our civilian travel was stopped by Vopos. After use of armed escort it remains stopped but only after show of Soviet force. This is only change in situation which /ugkphkt/ gives us improved posture. Sending a few cars with civilians in is not important to Mission as they still enter on foot or by S-bahn. Other than restricting Soviet personnel to one crossing and requiring identification, I see no reason for us to rush into having our personnel submit identification to Vopos. I see no gain and I urge we take longer to decide this question.

ACTION COPY

Indicate Amt.

taken

No. Actn Read

Initials

Action Officer

Please return to

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LIGHTNER

C/n note: Mr. Hamilton

RESPONSE FROM PARIS

RECEIVED PARIS

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